



APG NEWS

Published in the interest of the people of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland

www.teamapg.com

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Vol. 58, No. 26

Local Fourth of July events

Here is a list of events Aberdeen Proving Ground leaders and Soldiers will participate in over the holiday. Be sure to get out there and wave your flags for APG.

Thursday, July 3

5 p.m., Cecil County Veterans Reception and Buffet, concert and fireworks at North East VFW and Community Park. Participants include Col. Frederick Hughes and Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Agueda from the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering

Command.

Friday, July 4

10 a.m., Kingsville Volunteer Fire Department parade on Bradshaw Road. APG participants include the U.S. Army Public Health Command color guard.

6 p.m., Bel Air parade on Main Street. Participants include the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command and the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic color guard.

Saturday, July 5

2 p.m., Havre de Grace Fourth of July parade on Union Avenue. APG participants include the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.

6 p.m., Edgewood/Joppatowne Fourth of July parade on Shore Drive. Participants include APG Garrison's Col. Gregory McClinton and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Adams and the 20th CBRNE Command.

Army invites public comment on environmental impacts

U.S. Army Environmental Command

The Department of the Army has completed a Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment (SPEA) for Army 2020 force structure realignment and is making a draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) available for public comment.

All interested members of the public, federally-recognized Indian or Alaska Native tribes, Native Hawaiian groups, federal, state, and local agencies are invited to review and provide comments.

Comments will be accepted until Aug. 25. Submit written comments to: U.S. Army Environmental Command, ATTN: SPEA Public Comments, 2450 Connell Road (Building 2264), Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-7664; or by email to usarmy.jbsa.aec.nepa@mail.mil

The SPEA and draft FNSI may be accessed at: <http://aec.army.mil/Services/Support/NEPA/Documents.aspx>. Also, approximately one week after publication

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Photo by Sean Kief

(From left) Incoming Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey O. Adams accepts the Noncommissioned Officer Sword from Garrison Commander Col. Gregory R. McClinton during the Change of Responsibility Ceremony at the post theater June 26. Adams replaces Outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. James E. Ervin who is retiring after more than 31 years of service.

The passing of the sword

Adams welcomed, Ervin hailed as garrison changes responsibility

By YVONNE JOHNSON

APG News

It was a bittersweet parting of friends as the community wished outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. James E. Ervin well and welcomed his replacement, incoming Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey O. Adams, during

the Garrison Change of Responsibility Ceremony at the post theater June 26.

Guests included CECOM Chief of Staff Col. Charles C. Gibson; CECOM and installation Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis Dent; Command Sgt. Maj. Harold Dunn, 20th CBRNE Command; Sgt. Maj. Ali-

cia Singer, U.S. Army Public Health Command; Sgt. Maj. Adrienne Harris, 1st Area Medical Laboratory, and a host of other installation senior noncommissioned officers as well as Garrison directors and civil-

See ADAMS, page 12

Signal Corps 154th anniversary prompts talk of future strategies

By BOB DIMICHELE

CECOM

During a celebration of the Signal Corps' 154th anniversary, the commanding general of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command took the opportunity to recognize the regiment's past contributions while addressing its relevancy for the future strategic environment.

The Signal Corps anniversary was a joint venture by the Aberdeen Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications-Electronics

See CECOM, page 12

(From right) Brig. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford, CECOM commander and APG senior leader, celebrates the 154th anniversary of the Signal Corps during a ceremonial cake cutting with Spc. Lee Gannon, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, and the youngest Signal Soldier in attendance; Col. Joe Dupont, PEO IEW&S, the oldest Signal Soldier in attendance; retired Lt. Col. Ed Carnes, president of the Lt. Gen Alfred J. Mallette Chapter of the Signal Corps Regimental Association and CECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis Dent.

Photo by Bob DiMichele



Campaign aims to encourage statewide veteran hiring

By ALAN FEILER

APG News

All gave some and some gave all, is a common saying about veterans. And now, it's time for employers around the Free State to give back.

The Maryland Department of Veteran Affairs (MDVA) recently announced the start of Operation Hire: Maryland's 100 Day Veteran Hiring Challenge, encouraging the employment of those who served in all of the branches of the armed forces.

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ONLINE

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ICE system
<http://ice.disa.mil/>
Facebook, <http://on.fb.me/HzQlQw>

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WEATHER

Thursday

T-Storms
chance of rain 90%



87° | 68°

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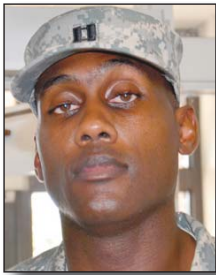
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STREET TALK

What are your plans for the Fourth of July holiday?

"I'm going to see my Family members in Virginia, just to hang out, barbecue, and watch fireworks. My cousin is in the Navy, so we'll be together again. We've done this for the last three years."



Capt. Brandon Schmitz
NGIC

"I plan to just be with the family and barbecue and have a good time. Just hang out with the Family."



Junius Thompson
Maryland National Guard

"It's my son Logan's 7th birthday, so we'll be having a birthday party for him in Ohio at my parents' house. We'll have fireworks, and the party's theme is 'The Lego Movie.'"



Jana McFall
Military spouse

"I'm going to see the Macy's fireworks in New York City with my family. This is my first time. We just wanted to do something new, and it sounds pretty exciting."



Jasmine Jackson
CECOM

"I'm spending the day with my Family in downtown Annapolis. We'll be going to the Naval Academy and watching all the fireworks."



Jennifer Brusgard
ACC

OPINION



Independence Day 2014 message of strength

BRIG. GEN. BRUCET. CRAWFORD
APG Senior Commander

Since July 4, 1776, the United States has grown from a loosely organized confederation of 13 English colonies scattered along the Atlantic seaboard to a superpower whose influence reaches around the globe. The Fourth of July celebrates the birth of America through its Declaration of Independence and the concept of freedom which that document proclaims. The Declaration had its first public reading in Philadelphia a few days after it was signed. It was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells, including the bell that would later be renamed the "Liberty Bell." However, it was not long before that celebration died out and the tough work of earning our freedom took place. By the end of 1776, the American Army was challenged, and the famous quote from patriot Thomas Paine defined the situation, "These are the times that try men's souls."

But out of those dark times, the strength of this nation arose. America finally earned its freedom through the blood, sweat and tears of George Washington's Army...the Continentals. That strength still endures in today's U.S. Army. Our service and its profession of arms have contributed immeasurably to the rise of a nation, first as the shield of the Republic during those vulnerable and trying early years and later as a means to defend American values and interests worldwide. That is why we at APG should be especially proud of this national holiday's intent. Each day, we work together to protect our concept of freedom and self-governance as well as the continuing existence of the Declaration which proclaimed them. Your contributions to the Army, the Joint Team and our nation build on our 239 years of Army heritage. The fight for our freedom did not end with our American independence. It started then and now lives on in the heart and spirit of each of you who serve this nation today. Your actions and accomplishments nurture our nation's freedom.

Remember, that what makes us different is not only the fact that we are proud of who we are and what we stand for; what makes us different is that we are accountable to the citizens of



Each day, we work together to protect our concept of freedom and self-governance as well as the continuing existence of the Declaration which proclaimed them. Your contributions to the Army, the Joint Team and our nation build on our 239 years of Army heritage.

the nation that we all swore to support and defend. Accountability and responsibility is fundamental to who we are. In closing, I'd like to publicly recognize and thank our veterans for their sacrifice. The five words "thank you for your service" still should be used early and often as you go about the weekend. Never take them for granted and never allow yourself to grow tired of saying it. Although this is not Veterans Day, like no other time in our history, our veterans and those who currently serve, need to know that you are Standing Strong with them. Have a great Fourth of July holiday and please stay safe in all your celebrations. "APG Strong".

Brig. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford, commanding general of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command was confirmed for promotion to major general by the U.S. Senate June 25. Crawford took command of CECOM May 20, 2014. His recent military assignments include J6, director of C4/Cyber and chief information officer, U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany and served concurrently as the commanding general of 5th Theater Signal Command and chief information officer, G6, of U.S. Army Europe in Wiesbaden, Germany.

Leave Donations

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPM 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For information, contact Joan Campbell at 410-278-5668 or joan.s.campbell.civ@mail.mil.

Adams, Dwayne
Armstead, Richard
Beall, Dawn
Birch, Garfield
Blethen, Lena
Blethen, Matthew
Bruner, Stephen
Cannon, Marcy
Clark, Lyra
Cobb, Joyce
Crawford, Curtis
Cwiernie, Victoria L
Deans, Theresa
Donahue, Karen
Donlon, Jacqueline
Doran, Kemi
Eberhardt, Joanne
Evans, Doretha
Fike, Curtis
Gaddis, Lonnie

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Green-Farley, Jessica
Gregory, Lisa
Grimsley, Sylvia
Hynes, Erin
Hoffman, William
James-Stewart, Sonya
Kennedy, Sandra
Kondu-Jammar, Tyshon
Lamar-Reevey, Kellie
Little, Angela
Lowry, Teresa
Malczewski, Stephen
Martino, Rose
Mason, Tonya
McCauley, Adrienne
McClintick, Jill
Nunley, Dana
Parks, Denise
Powell, Laura
Robinson, Jennifer

Robinson, Lisa
Rodriguez, Pedro
Rodgers, Christopher
Rushworth, Robert
Sheckelford, Angela
Sherrod, Irving
Small, Errol
Solomon, Je'Neane
Stewart, Kathleen
Sumic, Angie
Sweeney, Joseph
Taylor, Audrey
Teigue, Sarah
Terrin, Danielle
Trulli, Wayne
Urban, Brenda
Williams, Demetria
Winne, Janeen

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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stant Editor Yvonne Johnson, 410-278-1148 or email yvonne.johnson5.ctr@mail.mil, or contact Reporter Rachel Ponder, 410-278-1149 or email rachel.e.ponder2.ctr@mail.mil. Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper. Staff APG Senior Commander ..Brig. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford APG Garrison Commander .. Col. Gregory R. McClinton Public Affairs Officer Kelly Luster Acting Editor Amburr Reese Assistant Editor..... Yvonne Johnson Contract Photojournalists..... Rachel Ponder Alan Feiler Graphic designer/Photographer Molly Blossie Website www.apgnews.apg.army.mil



Photo by Alan Feiler



Photo by Bob DiMichele

Aberdeen city memorial remembers 9-11 victims, responders

(Left) The memorial to the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, containing a sculpture of the World Trade Center twin towers along with a piece of steel that was recovered from Ground Zero, was unveiled at Festival Park in the City of Aberdeen June 28. The event honored WTC and Pentagon employees, the passengers of American Airlines flight 11, United Airlines flight 175, American Airlines flight 77 and United Airlines flight 93, and the emergency responders who perished trying to save victims. (Right) APG Senior Leader Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford is surrounded by emergency responders as he addresses the audience during the September 11th Memorial Unveiling at Festival Park in the City of Aberdeen June 28.

APG vets start local NABVETS chapter

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

A group of Aberdeen Proving Ground civilians have set up a local chapter of a national veteran service organization.

The name of the organization, the National Association of Black Veterans (NABVETS), may be misleading, say organizers. NABVETS is for everyone, regardless of race or nationality.

The National Association of Black Veterans, Inc., NABVETS, was established by seven Vietnam combat veterans. It was incorporated under its original name Interested Veterans of the Central City (IVOCC) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1969 and reorganized as NABVETS, a membership service organization, in 1973.

In 1998, NABVETS was certified "for the purpose of preparation, presentation and prosecution of claims under laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs," as a national veteran service organization by the VA.

Ronald Gean, a retired Marine Corps master sergeant who relocated to APG with the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command during base realignment and closure, brought NABVETS to APG after attending a meeting in October 2013.

"I asked around and discovered a need for it," Gean said, noting that the organization's primary focus is to assist veterans through the claims process.

"A lot of veterans have given up on the VA because they're frustrated with the paperwork," he said.

The chapter held its first meeting in January with just a handful of members who voted to install officers and start the charter procedures.

The 101st NABVETS chapter received its charter from N A B V E T S National Vice-C o m m a n d e r Richard Kornegay, who drove to APG to hand-deliver the document in June.

Kornegay was accompanied by North Carolina State Commander Katherine Washington-Williams.

Officeholders in the 101st NABVETS chapter include Gean, who serves as vice-commander; Commander Lonzia Hawkins, a retired Army first sergeant and security manager with PEO IEW&S; Secretary Mireille "Rae" Gaynor, a contractor ILS manager with CECOM



Gean

LRC with nearly 20 years of Army active and reserve service; Treasurer Ladonna Sparks, a CECOM inventory manager and Tony Shumpert, chaplain, and CECOM logistics management specialist.

Hawkins said he came on board as soon as he learned about the chapter.

"I'm always trying to help fellow veterans so for me, this is a labor of love," he said, adding that members undergo training through the VA, "so we can provide informed advice."

"The system is overwhelmed," Hawkins said. "We want to reach out to those veterans who've given up on it so they are aware of the benefits and compensation they earned throughout their service to the nation."

"We want to bring them back to continue the process," Gean added. "It's not just about what the country owes them, but what they owe their families."

Gaynor said the group is all about protecting those who can't protect themselves.

"When you have an organization representing an individual, that gives the individual a bigger voice," she said. "As we learn more about the process we'll become more knowledgeable about how the VA works and then be better able to assist fellow veterans and their families."

Gean said the chapter will meet monthly and plans to set up a Facebook site as



Hawkins

well as an Adopt-a-Road program along the Route 715 highway.

"We'll be getting out and seeing what's needed around the community and looking at ways we can help."

He said the chapter wants to send the message that along with providing a time and place where veterans can network with others with similar experiences, the group is open to non-veterans as associate members.

"A lot of people want to help veterans but don't know where to start," he said. "You're welcome here. We're a 24/7 organization and when you need us, we'll be there."

Hawkins said that until lines of communication are established, veterans should contact a chapter officer for meeting times or for more information. He said active, Reserve and National Guard of all branches also are eligible to join.

"All are welcome," he said. "And a lot have shown interest already. Soldiers know that just a little way down the road they'll be one of us."

For more information about the 101st NABVETS chapter, contact Lonzia Hawkins, commander, 443-866-8021, lonzia.hawkins.civ@mail.mil; Ronald Gean, vice-commander, 443-395-6286, ronald.g.gean.civ@mail.mil; Mireille Gaynor, secretary, 443-861-2412, mireille.gaynor2.ctr@mail.mil



Gaynor

A lot of veterans have given up on the VA because they're frustrated with the paperwork.

Ronald Gean
Chapter vice-commander
101st NABVETS

Military Connect helps Soldiers, Families handle stress

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Help is only a phone call away for Soldiers and their Families. Military Connect Network, previously called "Vets4Warriors," is a free, completely confidential support network and call center, staffed by veterans who understand the unique challenges of military life.

This peer-to-peer network, funded by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, connects members of the U.S. Armed Forces as well as their Families to the resources and support they need to achieve their goals, manage stress and build resilience. Assistance is available 24/7, via phone, online chat and email. Since 2010, thousands of Soldiers have received free assistance.

"No matter what issues or challenges the caller is having, our peers have the experience, knowledge, training, and tools to help callers whenever the need



arises," said retired Army Maj. Gen. Mark Graham, director of Military Connect Network. "We are ready to answer your call 24/7."

The veterans who work at the call center are as diverse as the callers. They come from all service branches have served in operations from Vietnam to Operations Desert Shield/Storm, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, humanitarian missions, and other military campaigns.

"When you call, email or use online chat, you'll be connected with veteran and Family member peers who have been there," said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler on his official Facebook page. "They understand the problems unique to military life and know your challenges."

Peers can help callers with:

- Financial planning
- Stress management
- Reintegration after deployment

- Coping with loss
- Transitioning out of the military
- Building stronger, healthier relationships
- Overcoming adversity and building resilience
- Staying physically and mentally healthy

Another advantage of the Military Connect Network is that peers provide follow-up for ongoing concerns. In addition, staff members can help callers identify the resources they need and connect them with experts in their local communities.

To contact the Military Connect Network, call toll free, 855-838-8255, email Info@MilitaryConnectNetwork.com, or chat online through <http://www.military-connectnetwork.com/index.htm>.

Military Connect Network is not a crisis hotline, though counselors are certified to respond to suicidal callers. Service members needing immediate help should call the Military Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255.

Send newspaper submissions to the APG News

Community members are asked to send all submissions for the APG News to usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil, and CC patricia.g.beauchamp.civ@mail.mil. Type APG NEWS SUBMISSION in the Subject Line. You should receive a response within three business days letting you know that the submission has been received. If you do not receive a response, please call 410-278-7274 to inquire.

Three retire during June ceremony

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Two civilians and one Soldier with 88 years of combined service retired before Family, friends and co-workers during the Installation Retirement Ceremony at the Ball Conference Center June 26.

Col. Dennis C. Brown, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army Public Health Command, presided over the ceremony and presented awards with assistance from USAPHC 1st Sgt. Jay Shearer. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David S. Bowerman, of USAPHC, gave the opening prayer.

The honorees included Sgt. 1st Class Spencer M. Buck, National Ground Intelligence Center; JoAnne B. Collins, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command; and Patricia G. Beauchamp, U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Brown paid tribute to each of the retirees, noting their individual achievements. He thanked them for their dedicated service to the Army and to the nation. He noted their plans to travel, volunteer and pursue new job opportunities.

“I wish everyone the best as you move to that next chapter,” he said, before leading the audience in a round of applause for the retiree’s Families and friends.

“The retirees did not get to this point on their own,” he said. “Their Family and friends have supported them throughout their careers.”

Sgt. 1st Class Spencer M. Buck

Buck received the Army Meritorious Service Medal signed by Maj. Gen. Stephen G. Fogarty, commander of the Army Intelligence and Security Command; a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation signed by President Barack Obama; a Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement signed by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, and a U.S. flag and pin. His wife, Amber, received a DA Certificate of Appreciation, also signed by Odierno. Buck culminates his military career at the National Ground Intelligence Center at APG. He officially retires Sept. 30



Buck

with 25 years of service.

Buck entered the Army in September 1989 as a tank turret repairer. He completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and attended advanced individual training at Aberdeen Proving Ground. His duty assignments include Fort Hood, Texas, Germany, Bosnia, and Afghanistan.

Buck’s military awards and decorations include the Purple Heart, the Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. Buck plans to continue to serve the nation as a government civilian.

“I am looking forward to having more time with my Family,” he said.

JoAnne B. Collins

Collins was awarded the Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement and the DA Certificate of Appreciation. Her husband, Richard, received the DA Certificate of Appreciation. Collins culminates her career in the CECOM Field Support Directorate as chief of operations and execution branch for the Field Sustainment Support Division. She officially retired June 30 with 30 years of service.

Collins was born and raised in Long Branch, New Jersey. She graduated cum laude from Monmouth University in May 1976, with a Bachelor of Science degree



Collins

in elementary education and a minor in mathematics. While at Monmouth University, she was a member of the Lambda Sigma Tau Honor Society. She taught sixth grade for many years before entering federal service in June 1984 at the Communications-Electronics Command at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

During her government career, she held various positions to include accounting technician and supply systems analyst. Collins’ awards include a two-star note from retired Maj. Gen. Gerard P. Brohm for her involvement as chairperson on the Logistics and Readiness Center Workforce Information Team.

Collins’ husband, Richard, retired after 30 years federal service at Fort Monmouth and both are looking forward to enjoying retirement in the Maryland area and traveling the world.

She plans to volunteer with her husband at the Maryland House I-95 Travel Plaza.

Patricia G. Beauchamp

Beauchamp was awarded the Department of the Army Superior Civilian Service Award, signed by Davis D. Tindoll, director of the Atlantic Region Installation Management Command. She also received the DA Certificate of Retirement and the DA Certificate of Appreciation. Beauchamp culmi-



Beauchamp

nates her career in the Garrison Public Affairs Office as the editor of the *APG News*. She retired April 30 with 33 years of government service.

Beauchamp was born in Baltimore, Maryland. She moved to Harford County in 1963, where she still resides. She graduated from Towson University in 1974. Beauchamp held various positions during her career. She served as a clerk typist, a supply clerk, and worked in the Army Materiel Command Exhibits Division (now the Visual Information Services Center) for 25 years.

Beauchamp works part-time at the Hollywood Casino Perryville as a table games dealer. In her off-duty time, she enjoys singing, crocheting, knitting, traveling, reading and spending time with her brother, her friends and her cats. She is a member of her church’s contemporary music group and of Knit-Wits of Harford County, a group of ladies who knit and crochet items for local charities.

Beauchamp said she was glad she had the opportunity to travel. While working in the AMC Exhibits Division, she traveled to 30 states, as well as Singapore, Germany and Canada.

“It was a good run,” she said of her government career.

Victory garden builds camaraderie

Story and photo by **ALAN FEILER**
APG News

An Aberdeen Proving Ground civilian has discovered a unique stress reliever that promotes exercise and an appreciation of Mother Nature while inspiring friendships.

Having grown up in the Mississippi Delta, Richard McDonald is used to tilling land and digging his hands into fertile soil. Growing plants and vegetables are spiritual and healing endeavors, he contends, and part of his DNA.

So, creating a “victory garden” this past spring outside of his workplace at APG North (Aberdeen) was a no-brainer for McDonald, an equipment management specialist for the Garrison Maintenance Division’s Logistics Readiness Center.

“Sometimes, I come out here alone at night or on weekends and just get lost in my thoughts. It’s so nice and quiet and peaceful,” McDonald said of the garden. “When you grow up in a rural type of environment where gardens are popular, you feel very comfortable doing this.”

An Army retiree and a member of APG’s Community Health Promotion Council, McDonald said he hopes the 15-by-25-foot garden, located behind the Auto Craft Center, inspires other APG employees to create and cultivate their own gardens on post.

“It’s not only nutritional and therapeutic, but you can grow stuff and distribute them to the needy,” he said. “And it’s not expensive to do at all.”

Besides producing cucumbers, squash, tomatoes, peas, okra, peppers, lettuce, cantaloupe, carrots and zucchini, the garden has instilled a strong sense of camaraderie between LRC employees and some nearby contractors, according to McDonald.

“Before, we all didn’t mix too much and everyone was doing their own thing and not talking,” he said. “Now, we all know each other and get along real well. This has created some common ground for contractors and government personnel to work together and relax as they bring their gardening skills to the table.”

McDonald, who lives on post in Patriot Village, first came up with the idea of the garden while chatting last winter with his colleague and fellow gardener Robert Tisdale. While some of their coworkers expressed doubts about the



Richard McDonald, an equipment management specialist with the Garrison Maintenance Division’s Logistics Readiness Center, tends to vegetables in the “victory garden” he created near the Auto Craft Center. McDonald came up with the idea last winter while chatting with his colleague and fellow gardener Robert Tisdale. An Army retiree and member of the APG Community Health Promotion Council, McDonald called the garden “therapeutic” and said he hopes it inspires others to create and cultivate their own gardens on post.

project, McDonald and Tisdale proceeded with plans to create the garden on an identified parcel of their work grounds.

“Hey, if the White House, which is a government facility, can have a Victory Garden, why not us?” McDonald said with a chuckle.

When spring rolled around, they borrowed a tiller and got to work, tilling the designated land eight times. Recruited colleagues joined the cause and donated plants, seeds, fertilizer and equipment, and helped set up an irrigation system. About 10 people regularly volunteer their time and energy to the garden.

“We just started from scratch. It was nothing but a field,” said McDonald. “It was land not being used and I thought it’d be a great place for a garden. We’ve had a lot of people [around post] come by, just to see it.”

At one point, the gardeners found their most formidable challenge came

from groundhogs digging tunnels into the fenced-in garden and snatching plants and vegetables. They set up little cages to trap the pesky critters, but the most effective tool was a collection of red, white and blue pinwheels stationed around the garden. The pinwheels’ motion scared off the groundhogs and allowed the garden to thrive.

The gardeners usually tend the garden during lunchtime and before and after working hours. McDonald said they hope to host different post divisions and outfits at the garden for picnics.

“This is just another outlet for people to have,” he said. “There’s a lot of stress in everyday life. What we’ve done here is bring about some positive change. [The garden] helps you relax and enjoy your coworkers. ... I’m just an old Soldier trying to help make life a little more pleasant for those that may be going through some tough times.”

Howard Nason, a contractor manager, called the garden “a great idea.”

“People love seeing it, and then they say, ‘Why didn’t we do that before?’”

McDonald and his green-thumbed cohorts have not yet officially named the garden – although one employee jokingly calls it “Old McDonald’s Farm – and they do not currently plan to expand it.

“Right now, we’re just keeping it as it is,” said Tisdale. “We want to see how it goes. Next year, we’ll figure out what’s next. Right now, we’re still just learning from our mistakes.”

McDonald said calling the plot a victory garden is appropriate.

“This is our victory,” he said. “We’ve created something out of nothing and come together. I hope its sparks other agencies here to mimic what we did.”

The garden is located on the grounds of Bldg. 2353. For information, email richard.mcdonald9.civ@mail.mil .

APG SUMMER SAFETY

Think fireworks safety this holiday

USAR/SC

Let's face it — a Fourth of July celebration without bottle rockets, Roman candles and sparklers feels incomplete. For hundreds of Americans, though, this year's festivities will end badly because they failed to take proper safety precautions when handling fireworks.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, most fireworks-related injuries in the United States occur during the weeks surrounding the Fourth of July holiday, with the hands/fingers, eyes and legs being the most commonly injured body parts.

Fortunately, fireworks-related injuries are avoidable with just a few common-sense rules.

The National Council on Fireworks Safety and Consumer Product Safety Commission offers the following tips.

- Only use fireworks outdoors.
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions before igniting fireworks.
- Obey all local laws regarding use of fireworks.
- Ensure spectators are out of range.
- Only light fireworks outside on a smooth, flat surface away from homes and flammable materials. During drought conditions, avoid using fireworks altogether.
- Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned.



- Always have a bucket of water or water hose nearby.
- Remember, alcoholic beverages and fireworks never mix.

Sparkler safety

Even fireworks many parents consider safe for younger children to handle, such as sparklers, can cause painful injuries. The CPSC reports that 16 percent of consumer fireworks injuries are caused by sparklers, with the majority of those occurring to young children. To keep your children safe, follow these tips.

- Sparklers should always be used under close adult supervision.
- Always remain standing while

using sparklers.

- Never hold a child in your arms while using sparklers.
- Never hold or light more than one sparkler at a time.
- Sparklers and bare feet can be a painful combination. Always wear closed-toe shoes when using sparklers.
- Sparkler wires and sticks remain hot long after the flame has gone out. Be sure to place spent sparklers in a bucket of water.
- Never give a lighted sparkler to another person. Give them the unlit sparkler and then light it.
- Always stand at least six feet from another person while using sparklers.

- Never throw sparklers.
- Show children how to hold sparklers at arm's length away from their body.
- Teach children not to wave sparklers, especially wooden stick sparklers, or run while holding sparklers.

Fireworks can add extra excitement to any Fourth of July celebration. Be responsible this holiday and take precautions to protect yourself and your Family from needless accidents.

For more information on fireworks safety, visit the U.S. Army Readiness/Safety Center website at <https://safety.army.mil>.

CECOM hosts communications exercise at APG

By **KRISTOPHER JOSEPH**
and **MARISSA ANDERSON**
CECOM

"Effective Cyber operations in a Joint Information Environment" was the focus of this year's Joint User Interoperability Communications Exercise (JUICE) hosted by the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., during June.

In its 21st year, this worldwide communications exercise brings together the joint services, coalition partners, Department of Defense (DoD) groups, and key U.S. government and federal agencies in an effort to test and train tactics, techniques and procedures that will lead to improved interoperability and synchronization during real-world scenarios.

"JUICE is ultimately our way of preparing for the future joint tactical environment where more operations will occur in cyberspace," said John Kahler, IT specialist for CECOM Software Engineering Center (SEC) and chief, Joint On-demand Interoperability Network.

"Civilized nations have become dependent on the internet as a critical link between its citizen's information dissemination and support infrastructure," Kahler said. "The vision that the Department of Defense has laid out for a Joint Information Environment between joint, multi-national and inter-agencies is being realized by the hard-working professionals of this capstone event here on APG."

JUICE includes network planning, systems integration, network operations and cyber defense operations to identify lessons learned for improvements to existing operational capabilities. The exercise also seeks to address operational gaps identified by deployed units, coalition partners, DoD working groups, governmental agencies and first responders.

The U.S. Strategic Command is the official sponsor of this year's event. One of their five priorities is to "build cyberspace capability and capacity." JUICE is focusing on cyber as a way to improve overall network defense.

"In today's environment, it's not a question of will a network be attacked but rather when a network will be attacked," said Kahler. "For these reasons, JUICE 2014 is focused on the joint cyber defense of a deployed joint task force and communications interoperability between our federal, state and local responders supporting the President's Executive Order 16318 National Security and Emergency Preparedness."

SEC was the lead CECOM organization involved in the exercise.

Air Force Col. Eric Good, JUICE chief of communications, J6, described JUICE's role in defending the network



Photos by Marissa Anderson

U.S. Marines receive training on a solar panel charging station during the 2014 Joint Users Interoperability Communications Exercise (JUICE) hosted by the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., in June.



U.S. Marines examine a Satellite Transportable Terminal during the 2014 Joint Users Interoperability Communications Exercise (JUICE) hosted by the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., during the month of June.

in a joint environment.

"Traditionally, the cyber monitoring and defense is done at a higher headquarters level. Now cyber defense capabilities are at the tactical edge and grant us greater situational awareness," said Good. "At JUICE this year, we can get that understanding at the tactical level. We may have had the communication abilities in the past, but now we have true command and control capabilities in defense of the network."

The notional setting of JUICE was a forward-deployed JTF that is respond-

ing to several simulated real-world scenarios involving both natural disasters and terrorist attacks against the United States. These included a major earthquake in the mid western U.S., a coordinated cyber attack on the nation's communication infrastructure, and the release of a biological agent in a major metropolitan area. Each incident required the JTF to establish communications with several government and civil agencies in order to provide immediate support to tactical elements and other first responders. The objective of

the JTF training is to heighten readiness and responsiveness through the use of cutting edge technology and the diverse capabilities from the participating agencies and groups.

Participants in the JUICE exercise included the DoD, Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the departments of Justice and Transportation, and the Transportation Service Authority, as well as civil and local authorities, and first responders.

"The objective is to work together as a team," said Kahler. "This collaboration will further develop the TTPs now so that in the event we are called upon, we will have already trained together as a team."

Throughout the exercise facility on APG, personnel wearing different patterns of camouflaged uniforms worked side-by-side in the various operations cells. JUICE also aims to train the joint team on state-of-the-art enterprise services and communication systems so that they are familiar with each other and the capabilities they will take into battle.

Marine Corps Lt. Col. Grant Johnson, U.S. Strategic Command, was one of the participants in JUICE and further described its inherent value to the joint services.

"The joint fight is not necessarily a new concept, but has proven difficult in the past. Each service component brings a different capability to the fight. Ninety percent of the participants in this exercise are not located at APG," said Johnson. "JUICE was created 21 years ago in order to facilitate those interoperabilities. "JUICE takes new and emerging technologies, tests them out, and places them in an operational-like environment to ensure that each interoperability piece works amongst the services."

The primary system supporting JUICE is the Joint On-demand Interoperability Network (JOIN). JOIN gives all worldwide participants the ability to collaborate with one another and share data in near real-time.

"JOIN provides a distributed testing environment in which systems can be tested across the same environment and can be leveraged to connect the tactical community into the acquisition community so they can test and support fielded systems during the sustainment process. JOIN is an enabler, supporting the development, sustainment and deployed forces execute their mission cost effectively while reducing and mitigating risk," said Kahler.

JUICE and the JOIN present the Army with a "one of a kind" resource that serves as a critical link between the development and sustainment communities providing better support to the Warfighter.

CERDEC team supports crypto devices

By **ALLISON BARROW**
RDECOM CERDEC Public Affairs

Army engineers are working to bring legacy cryptographic devices into the 21st century, saving time, money and effort on behalf of the user.

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command’s communications-electronics center, or CERDEC, Army-Wide Cryptographic Network Standardization – ACNS – team has traveled to installations throughout the country as well as in the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Korea, and will head to Europe and Japan this summer to make logistically unsupportable End Cryptographic Units function for today’s Army.

“Modernizing these antiquated ECUs saves the Army hundreds of thousands of dollars. It provides modern crypto equipment with enhanced security and capabilities at no cost to the customer,” said Patrick Doyle, lead engineer for the In-line Network Encryptor team of the CERDEC Space and Terrestrial Communications Directorate Cryptographic Modernization Branch.

CERDEC efforts support the ACNS initiative, an Army Network Enterprise Technology Command program to expedite delivery of modernized crypto products to the field. The program is led by Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications-Tactical’s Project Director Network Enablers.

The CERDEC team has modernized



U.S. Army photo

CERDEC Space and Terrestrial Communications Directorate engineers integrate modern protective equipment into an active circuit while simultaneously pulling out the legacy hardware.

33 military installations in the U.S., Marshall Islands and Republic of Korea since 2012. To date, 1,462 antiquated devices have been replaced with 879 modern units.

The modernization effort involves taking up to 17 legacy devices and replacing them with one unit. The ACNS team performs site surveys before field visits to prepare for the installation but will often face challenges in the field when encountering different interfaces or discrepancies in the types of net-

works and equipment available.

“It’s an age of shrinking budgets, so you are not going to find a standard set of equipment in the field,” Doyle said. “For example, when I have my Network A at Installation A, it’s not going to be the same as Network B at Installation B. Each location has had a different budget over the years and some could only procure certain legacy equipment, while others may have been able to procure more modern equipment. The big thing is that no two networks are ever the same.”

CERDEC engineers in the field work with the team back in the lab to troubleshoot issues. If the problem can’t be solved up front in the field, the lab will recreate the problem and look for a solution then send their findings back, Doyle added.

“We travel and the lab provides great support. If we need anything they ship it down to us. If we need a new cable made, we can send them the pin-out that we need and they can make it in the lab. If we need a customized part, the lab can make it with the three-dimensional printer and send it out,” said Kimoanh Le, CERDEC S&TCD Link Encryption Family Team lead.

The ACNS team would often manually update multiple devices one at a time, which could take up one to two hours of an engineer’s time. Le found a more efficient solution by creating a mass updater that allows approximately 20 devices to be plugged in and automatically updated within an hour.

“With this effort there’s increased workload for the depot [Tobyhanna Army Depot].” Doyle said. “The depot may have to upgrade, say, 400 units a month, which is a lot, because it used to be one unit with one person doing it for every hour. Now it’s 22 [units] for one person for every hour.”

The ACNS team worked with Defense Department and commercial partners to create a strategic five-year plan to modernize the rest of the Army, including outside the continental United States and in-theater circuits.

“The team is continually improving their processes to provide efficiencies and cost savings. This requires extensive coordination with numerous DOD and commercial partners in order to provide a seamless solution with the operational up time required by the units,” said Matt Lazzaro, chief, CERDEC S&TCD Cryptographic Modernization Branch.

The team supports and works closely with PEO C3T PD Network Enablers, the overall lead for the ACNS effort who conducts the requirements, procurement and acquisition of the legacy devices.

The team includes Communications-Electronics Command’s Tobyhanna Army Depot, which prepares and ships modern equipment to the sites, then demilitarizes the legacy devices when they are shipped back.

“ACNS gets the right equipment into the hands of Soldiers, frees them from the burden of retaining obsolete equipment and saves the taxpayer money in the process,” said Robert Vik, product director, COMSEC Cryptographic Systems, PEO C3T PD Network Enablers. “CERDEC’s technical acumen and systems engineering processes have made this program both successful and efficient.”

The ACNS team not only works with Army installations but also services Navy, Air Force and National Guard units in need of assistance or who have Army equipment on hand. This summer they will travel to installations on the East Coast, and in Europe, Japan and the Republic of Korea to modernize legacy circuits.

Exchange to give away two Smart cars

Exchange

Summer is about to get sweeter as the Army & Air Force Exchange Service teams up with Welch’s/Sour Jacks to offer two military shoppers a chance to drive home a brand-new Smart cars.

Through July 31, shoppers can enter the Promotion in Motion Smart Car Giveaway at Exchange locations worldwide for the chance to win one of two Smart cars, each valued at \$15,000.

“It’s smart to enter this sweepstakes for a chance at a brand-new car,” said Exchange Chief of Staff Col. Tom Ockenfels. “Military shoppers can stop by their nearest Exchange to fill out an entry form. It’s that easy.”

Authorized shoppers 18 years and older can enter the Promotion in Motion Smart Car Giveaway. No purchase is necessary, and the drawing will take place on or about Aug. 29.

For more information, visit the Exchange website at www.shopmyexchange.com/ExchangeStores.

ECBC civilian receives German Cross of Honour

ECBC

The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center’s (ECBC) Associate Director, Dr. James Baker became the 16th American civilian to ever receive the German Gold Cross of Honour.

The award was presented by Dr. Alexander Grabowski, Director CBRN Decontamination Directorate of German Federal Armed Forces Research Institute for Protection Technologies & NBC Protection during a ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground that included Baker’s family and longtime coworkers and friends.

Grabowski, who was once a visiting scientist at ECBC [said he] has known Baker for many years and was pleased to present him with the award.

“I am honored to know and work with Jim. He has the incredible ability to walk the line between friendship and professionalism,” said Grabowski. “He made working at the center a valuable experience for me and countless others.”

The full name of the award is the *Ehrenkreuz der Bundeswehr* (Cross of Honour) and it is presented for exemplary and meritorious service over 20 years.

“I was very touched and honored to receive this award today,” said Baker. “I have had the pleasure of seeing ECBC evolve and grow during my long career here and to be recognized as playing a role in that by one of our important foreign partners truly means a lot to me.”

Baker started his federal service in 1969 when he began active duty as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Chemical Corps assigned to the Chemical Systems



Courtesy photo

(From left) ECBC’s Dr. James Baker receives the German Gold Cross of Honour (The German Ehrenkreuz der Bundeswe in Gold) from Alexander Grabowski, director of the CBRN Decontamination Directorate of the German Federal Armed Forces Research Institute for Protection Technologies & NBC Protection.

Laboratory (now ECBC) at Edgewood Arsenal. He transitioned from the military to civilian service at ECBC in 1971 and has remains there today. Baker is active in the international chemical defense program as a technical project officer and has served on multiple projects and other international forums.

“Throughout his long and produc-

tive career here at ECBC, Jim has led by example,” said Joe Wienand, ECBC director. “He is dedicated, driven and a pleasure to work with. A significant part of our success today can be directly tied to the work that he has done on our behalf. I consider myself fortunate to have worked with him as a colleague and to be able to call him a friend.”

Exchange offers prizes for Homeward Bound Campaign

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service’s Homeward Bound campaign is sizzling with a variety of giveaways to celebrate the homecoming of America’s Warfighters and honor those who serve.

Shoppers who visit the Exchange Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AAFES.BX.PX have a chance to win various prizes, including:

- An MWR Vacations trip for two valued at \$999 or a 65-inch LG SMART television valued at \$1,699, through July 10.

“The Homeward Bound giveaways are really heating up,” said Exchange Chief of Staff Col. Tom Ockenfels. “Several military shoppers will have the chance to walk away winners.”

To enter the Homeward Bound contests and for more information about upcoming promotions, visit www.shopmyexchange.com/homewardbound.

One of America’s most decorated Soldiers honored on his birthday

Story and photo by **J.D LEIPOLD**
ARNEWS

Soldiers gathered at Arlington National Cemetery, June 20, to pay tribute to one of the Army’s most decorated Soldiers, Sergeant Audie Murphy, on the day of his birth.

Members of the Military District of Washington Sergeant Audie Murphy Club placed a wreath at Murphy’s grave while a lone bugler played “Taps” as their way to recommit to “lead from the front.”

The simple headstone for Murphy’s grave is the same plain, white, marble used for all of the country’s heroes and veterans laid to rest at the cemetery.

Murphy earned the Medal of Honor for his actions Jan. 26, 1945, during World War II. He also earned, among other decorations, a Distinguished Service Cross, a Silver Star with bronze oak leaf cluster, a Legion of Merit, a Bronze Star with “V” device, and a Purple Heart with two oak leaf clusters. He is widely said to be the most decorated American Soldier.

Murphy left active duty 1945, as a battlefield-commissioned first lieutenant -- he had enlisted in 1942, as a private. Later, he joined the 36th Infantry Division “T-Patchers” of the Texas National Guard, where he ultimately achieved the rank of major. He retired from military service in 1966.

In 1945, Murphy went to Hollywood to try his hand as an actor at the invitation of James Cagney. He became closely associated with the movie industry, both as an actor and a producer starring in 39 films. Included among those



Members of the Military District of Washington Sergeant Audie Murphy Club salute as “Taps” is played during a ceremony honoring his birthday at Arlington Cemetery. Murphy’s grave is the second most-visited site at Arlington National Cemetery, after President John F. Kennedy.

films was the autobiographical “To Hell and Back,” adapted from the best seller about his war experiences. Murphy largely starred in westerns and was also known for his song-writing and poetry.

As a civilian, Murphy received the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal. Currently, a petition is being circulated and endorsed by fans, veterans, elected leaders, and more than 50 Medal of Honor recipients, calling for the president to award Murphy the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his outspoken and

pioneering efforts to get the federal government to recognize and improve treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder, known as PTSD, for all military veterans from World War II, Korea and Vietnam. At that time, PTSD was known as shell shock.

Murphy’s life was cut short at age 46, when he was killed in a plane crash on a mountaintop near Roanoke, Va., on May 28, 1971.

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club is a nationwide organization. Membership

in the organization is a reward for non-commissioned officers whose leadership achievements and performance merit special recognition. The club is a means of recognizing those NCOs who have contributed significantly to the development of a professional NCO Corps and a combat-ready Army.

After the ceremony, members of the MDW Sergeant Audie Murphy Club retired to nearby Fort Myer, Virginia, to induct four new deserving NCOs into the club.

Leadership shifts during DCGS-A Change of Charter

By **JESS SMITH**
DCGS-A

Leadership changed hands during a Change of Charter ceremony June 25 at Aberdeen Proving Ground for the Distributed Common Ground System – Army (DCGS-A), the Army’s cornerstone system for intelligence processing, analysis and dissemination.

Col. Charles Wells, Program Manager DCGS-A transferred authority to Col. Robert Collins during a ceremony hosted by Stephen Kreider, Program Executive Officer – Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors (PEO IEW&S).

DCGS-A is the Army’s intelligence system that gathers, analyzes and shares significant amounts of information pulled into a common environment, enhances Soldier situational awareness and improves commander’s ability to protect the force. It is currently deployed supporting the Army’s intelligence mission across the world.

Wells began leading the team in July 2010, when the program faced the challenge to provide greater access to shared intelligence data while also needing to balance the priority of increasing user understanding and simultaneously working through federally-mandated acquisition milestones within schedule and budget constraints.

As a result of Wells’ leadership, the program successfully achieved major acquisition milestones and balanced immediate operational requirements of an ongoing war. Over the past few years under Wells leadership the program has developed a new acquisition

“

I am honored to take on the responsibilities leading this spectacular DCGS-A team. It is clear from the remarkable accomplishments of this program that the amount of integrity, hard work, and dedication to our Soldiers is going to enable us to continue the positive momentum toward our goals and objectives

Col. Robert Collins
Program Manager DCGS-A

tion strategy that better aligns with an agile information technology program, fielded multiple software and hardware updates to the program and increased public understanding of what DCGS-A provides to Warfighters. He leveraged a diverse team of government and industry partnerships to ensure positive momentum towards the program’s vision and direct support to the program’s users.

DCGS-A also successfully deployed worldwide to support the intelligence mission in multiple highly visibility missions across the Army protecting U.S. interests.

“We’ve worked extremely hard over the past few years to support Soldiers and the Army’s intelligence mission. Due to a lot of determination and perseverance from our government and industry team, we’ve been able to make great

strides in technology, policy, procedures and education. As I move to my next responsibilities to support the Army, I leave with confidence in the future and a huge amount of pride in the constant focus we’ve had on what is in the best interests of our intelligence analysts and the mission,” explained Wells.

Wells’ previous assignments provided him with the technical understanding and familiarity necessary for managing large data. He was the first project officer for Army Knowledge Online (AKO), assistant Product Manager for Blue Force tracking systems and Product Manager for Defense Communications Systems – Europe/Southwest Asia. He was responsible for the modernization of the U.S. Army voice and data networks in Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan.

Wells and his team have focused on

integrating agile software, expanded data storage, and rapid information processing to align with intelligence analyst requirements. Under his guidance, DCGS-A augmented the program to be an impressive tool for analysts while incorporating ease of use requests from end users. The merging of program functionality with powerful results was due to strong industry partnership collaboration and has increased commander visibility and Warfighter mission planning.

He will continue to support the Warfighter working for the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology as the Director of Resource Integration Division in the Pentagon, with oversight for budget planning of Army Acquisition Programs and Army Research and Development investments. As he hands over the charter to Collins, he does so with confidence in the future of the program.

“I am honored to take on the responsibilities leading this spectacular DCGS-A team. It is clear from the remarkable accomplishments of this program that the amount of integrity, hard work, and dedication to our Soldiers is going to enable us to continue the positive momentum toward our goals and objectives,” explained Collins.

Collins recently graduated from Senior Service College at the Eisenhower School of Strategic Studies at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C. and previously was the Product Manager for the Warfighter Information Network-Tactical (WIN-T) Increment 2 and 3, the Army’s backbone tactical network and communications programs.



Dotslyn “Dee” Ford

Mobilization and Deployment Readiness Program Manager

As the mobilization and deployment program manager for Army Community Service, Dotslyn “Dee” Ford provides training and information to all assigned members scheduled to deploy 90 days or more, and to members returning from deployment. She also assists commanders with unit Family Readiness

Group operations. Ford has served in this position at APG for three years.

Ford is a military retiree who served in support of Operations Desert Shield/Storm. She holds bachelor’s degrees in management studies and sociology from the University of Maryland University College. Before coming to APG,

she served as the mobilization and deployment readiness program manager in Germany and Belgium from 2004 to 2010. She also worked as an administrative assistant for APG Garrison from Nov. 2010 to March 2011.

Ford said her passion for helping Soldiers and their Families drew her to this line of work.

“I enjoy sharing stories about my adventures, finding out the challenges of our Soldiers and their Family members, and being able to help when they are going through a difficult time,” she said. “Though spending time apart is not the ideal situation for Family life, they are encouraged to look at separation as an opportunity to learn and grow.”

Pre-deployment training is held from 9 to 10:30 a.m. every Tuesday

at ACS, Bldg. 2503 High Point Road. Reunion/Reintegration training is held quarterly. The next Reunion/Reintegration training will be held 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., Sept. 11, at the APG North (Aberdeen) chapel.

Ford said Families with a deployed parent- Soldier or Department of the Army civilian- are encouraged to utilize Child, Youth and School Services Deployment Support Services, which allows school-aged children of deployed parents to participate in CYSS activities at a reduced rate. Contact CYSS at 410-278-7479 or ACS at 410-278-7572 for additional information.

Ford’s business hours are 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Thursday and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday. For more information, contact Ford at 410-278-2180 or email dotslyn.e.ford.civ@mail.mil.

Army dentists fight uphill battle against sugar and sugary drinks

By **COL. GEORGIA ROGERS**
Consultant to the Surgeon General for Dental Public Health

Sugar is being called “the new tobacco.” Its many forms have been linked to the increasing rates of diabetes, heart disease, nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, and other chronic diseases in the U.S.

Army dentists have been fighting on the front lines against sugar for decades. Despite their best efforts, tooth decay continues to be the main cause of dental disease and non-battle injuries among deployed Soldiers. From 2000 to 2008, the oral health of Department of Defense recruits worsened. The 2008 Tri-Service Oral Health Survey revealed that Army recruits have higher numbers of untreated cavities compared to other DOD recruits. A study at the largest Army installation showed that about one-third of Soldiers develop new treatment needs every year.

Army Soldiers have better access to education about oral hygiene and proper nutrition, fluoridated water, fluoride toothpaste, and dental care than many Americans. But Army dentists report that these defenses can’t compensate for Soldiers’ frequent snacking habits and the popularity of soft drinks, sports drinks, energy drinks, sweetened coffee, sweet tea, and coffee boutique drinks (frappachinos, etc). Army dentists are all too familiar with the rampant decay that results when a Soldier sips on sugary drinks throughout the day. Drinks that contain high amounts of sugar, caffeine and citrus flavors often cause extensive tooth decay, likely due to the combination of high sugar content and organic acids.

Young Soldiers often don’t pay attention to the sugar, calories, or caffeine in their drinks. One large iced coffee can have 11 teaspoons of sugar. But even if they check the label, looks can be deceiving. The amount of sugar, caffeine, and carbohydrates per serving listed on a single can of an energy drink may not seem that bad, but the can actually contains two servings so you must multiply by 2.

The most popular Energy drink purchased at AAFES stores, 16 oz Monster, has 13 teaspoons, and the most popular



soda, 20 oz Mountain Dew, has more than 18 teaspoons of sugar.

Caffeine and sugar have both been shown to be addictive, and Soldiers are just as vulnerable to the caffeine rush and sugar high as other Americans. During deployment or intense training courses, Soldiers can come to depend on

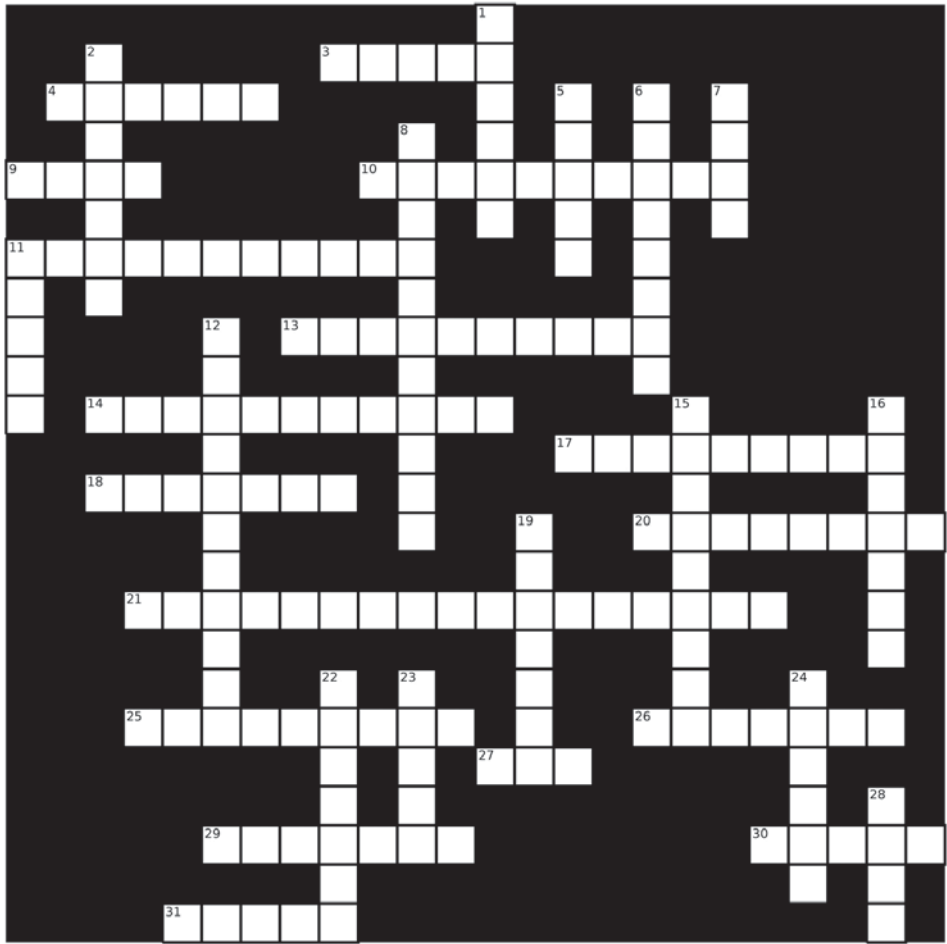
these drinks to stay awake and alert, or to relieve boredom. Then, they return home with souvenirs that they would rather not have -- a mouthful of new cavities.

Col. Johnette Shelley, director of Health and Wellness at the U.S. Army Dental Command (DENCOM), recommends Soldiers practice the following countermeasures to protect themselves from decay:

- Replace sugared beverages with sugar-free alternatives, plain water, mineral water, or unsweetened coffee or tea.
- Fruit juice contains sugar and acid also, so limit juice to 6 ounces of calcium-fortified juice per day. Eat fresh fruit to meet daily fruit intake goals.
- Drink sugary or acidic drinks quickly, within 15 minutes, rather than sipping on them for an extended period of time.
- Limit meal, beverage and snack intake to no more than five times per day. Combine sugary beverages or juice with a meal, ideally near the beginning of the meal.
- Try to drink sugary, erosive drinks cold to minimize the acidic effects.
- Use a straw that reaches to the back of the tongue to keep the drink away from your teeth.
- Drink plain water immediately following the sugared drink to ‘wash’ it off of the teeth and neutralize the acid from the drink. Chew sugar-free or xylitol gum to help neutralize acids.
- Wait at least 20 minutes after drinking sugary beverages or 100 percent fruit juice before brushing teeth with fluoridated toothpaste.
- Do not rinse your mouth after brushing. Just spit several times to remove the excess toothpaste. Also, don’t eat or drink anything for at least 20 - 30 minutes after you brush so the fluoride will stay on your teeth as long as possible and protect them better.

Remember, sip all day... Get decay.

The APG Crossword



Answers to this puzzle may be found in this edition of the APG News, or may be common knowledge. The completed puzzle will be published in next week’s paper.

Across

3. CSM Adams was presented the Noncommissioned Officer _____
4. Name for Dr. Albert James Myer’s visual communications system in 1856
9. Local charitable knitting and crocheting group Knit-_____
10. Home of Eisenhower School of Strategic Studies
11. Sang national anthem at last week’s Garrison Change of Responsibility Ceremony
13. Honored with the German Gold Cross of Honour
14. Iconic actor (“You dirty rat!”) who invited Audie Murphy to come to Hollywood
17. Susquehannock word for “at the rapids”
18. APG road that is partially closed
20. Park in Aberdeen where 9/11 memorial was recently dedicated
21. Recently-retired APG News editor
25. State capital where Jennifer Bruggard will spend Fourth of July
26. Art teacher Beatrice “Miss Bea” _____

27. Dotslyn Ford’s nickname
29. Military _____ Appreciation Day is October 18th.
30. Jasmine Jackson plans to attend this NYC department store’s fireworks show
31. Lone Star State town that CSM Adams hails from

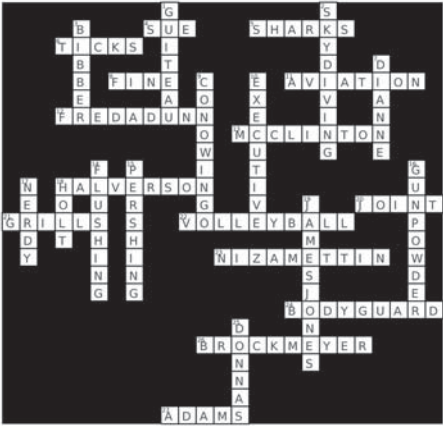
Down

1. Sparklers should always be supervised by this group
2. NABVETS was established by seven _____ vets in Milwaukee in 1969

5. County in which today’s Conowingo is located
6. APG senior leader who spoke at 9/11 memorial dedication
7. Operation _____ encourages Md. companies and agencies to employ vets
8. Most visited grave at Arlington National Cemetery
11. No-_____ desert boots were approved for wear in 2004
12. Eastern Shore town where one company employs military veterans
15. “Mouse Automated _____”
16. Sugar is now called the new _____

19. Audie Murphy died in a plane crash near this Virginia city
22. Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey O. Adams comes to APG from this Colorado fort
23. Don’t _____, just spit out excess toothpaste after brushing
24. Corps group recently celebrated its 154th anniversary
28. Surname of founder of Signal Corps

Solution to the June 26 puzzle



WORD OF THE WEEK

Intrepid

Pronounced: in-TREP-id

Part of speech: Adjective

Definition

1. Resolutely fearless; dauntless: an intrepid explorer

Related forms

Noun: in-tre-pid-i-ty, in-trep-id-ness
Adverb: in-trep-id-ly

Uses

- He was a skilled knight and a daring huntsman, and although not a great general, was intrepid on the field of battle.
- It’s a great book that combines biography, natural history, and intrepid on-the-ground reporting
- Only time and more fossils will reveal who these intrepid travelers were and why they left their motherland.
- So intrepid and determined is he that he refuses to take a denial.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

WRAIR

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

WRAIR is the largest biomedical research facility administered by the U.S. Department of Defense. The institute is a subordinate unit of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC), headquartered at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

The WRAIR aims to conduct biomedical research that is responsive to Department of Defense and U.S. Army requirements and delivers life saving products including knowledge, technology and medical material that sustain the combat effectiveness of the Warfighter. The WRAIR hosts two Centers of Excellence for Military Psychiatry and Neuroscience and for Infectious Disease Research, headquartered in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Soldier fitness, brain injury, and sleep management make up the Center for Military Psychiatry and Neuroscience Research. The Center for Military Infectious Disease Research combines expertise in the development of vaccines and drugs for prevention and treatment of such diseases as malaria, HIV/AIDS, dengue fever, wound infections, leishmaniasis, enteric diseases and others.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**FRIDAY & MONDAY
JULY 4 & 7
APG DENTAL CLINIC HOLIDAY
CLOSURE**

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Dental Clinic will close for the Fourth of July holiday, Friday, July 4 and for a military training holiday, Monday, July 7. The clinic resumes normal business hours Tuesday, July 8. For more information, contact Spc. Crystal Thomas at 410-278-1798.

**MONDAY
JULY 7
DONNA’S PIT BEEF CLOSING
ONE WEEK**

Donna’s Pit Beef restaurant, located in the post theater, will close the week of Monday, July 7 through Friday, July 11 due to planned construction on the parking lot.
Donna’s will resume normal business hours Monday, July 14.
For more information, call 410-272-7730.

**TUESDAY
JULY 8
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD
VISIT**

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield to visit APG 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326; and 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in rooms 103/104, JPEOCBD Bldg. E2800 in APG South (Edgewood).
No appointment is necessary.
For more information, contact CPAC’s Teri Wright at 410-278-4331 or email teresa.l.wright28.civ@mail.mil

**WEDNESDAY
JULY 9
FIRE MARSHALL TRAINING**

Training for building Fire Marshalls will be held 1 to 3 p.m. at the APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810.
Training will be conducted by the APG Fire Department Fire Prevention Branch and will review what the post requires of tenants to assure fire safety in the buildings they occupy and for which they are responsible. It will include monthly inspection requirements fire extinguisher inspections.
For additional information, contact William J. Bond, fire protection inspector, at 410-306-0093 or email william.j.bond1.civ@mail.mil.

**MEDICAL COMMAND TOWN
HALL**

Join the Army Surgeon General and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Medical Command, Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho, for a virtual Town Hall on the Army Medicine Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OfficialArmy-Medicine, 12:30 to 230 p.m. For more information about Horoho, visit <http://armymedicine.mil/Pages/LTG-Patricia-D-Horoho.aspx>. For more information about Army Medicine go to www.army-medicine.mil. Follow Lt. Gen. Horoho on Twitter at @LTGHoroho.

**THURSDAY
JULY 17
C4ISR HEALTH EXPO**

The APG Community Health Promotion Council will host a Health EXPO 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mallette Mission Training Facility, Bldg. 6008. This event will include health screenings for vision, blood pressure, spinal scans and fat analysis and offer seated massage and advice on nutrition and tobacco cessation. Topics will focus on stress and weight management, financial wellness, sleep disorders, organizational skills, life insurance, physical fitness, dental care and more.
Guests can chat with representatives and view displays from the APG Army Wellness Center (AWC), Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP), Family & Morale Welfare and Recreation (FMWR), and various health care providers. Door prizes and promotional giveaways will be featured.
For more information, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901 or email tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 18
MILITARY RETIREE
APPRECIATION DAY**

Save this date for APG’s Annual Military Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) to be held at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. Registration begins 8 a.m. with the opening ceremony at 9

a.m. This year’s guest speaker is John Radke, Chief of Army Retirement Services, Headquarters, Department of the Army. More details to follow.

**ONGOING
FEW SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE
JULY 1**

The Maryland Tri-County Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) is accepting applications for the Dottie Dorman Working Woman’s Scholarship. The \$500 award is to offset college expenses incurred while in pursuit of continuing education.
Applicants must:
Be a female government employee (civilian or military) and employed in a federal job working in Baltimore, Cecil or Harford County.
Currently enrolled and pursuing college level studies at an accredited college or university.
Provide proof of enrollment for current semester.
Submit an essay explaining why they should be awarded the Dottie Dorman Working Woman’s Scholarship.
All submissions should be typed and not exceed two pages.
Submit applications to: Maryland Tri-County Chapter of FEW, P.O. Box 1613, Bel Air, MD 21014
Criteria:
▪ You are currently in a position limited in promotion potential.
▪ There is lack of government funding.
▪ You are currently or recently involved in reduction-in-force (provide dates).
▪ All applications must be submitted by July 1.
For more information, contact Karen Jobs at 410-436-4299 or email karen.w.jobs.civ@mail.mil.

**HYDRANT FLUSHING
THROUGH AUG. 4**

The annual hydrant flushing at APG runs through Aug. 4. Flushing will be completed 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday of each week. The schedule below is tentative and will be followed as closely as possible. The points of contact for this effort are Dennis Overbay, APG Directorate of Public Works, at 443-306-8910, dennis.a.overbay.civ@mail.mil, or City of Aberdeen representative, Roger Hall at 410-272-1449.

**THROUGH AUGUST 19
EDUCATION CENTER SUMMER
SEMESTER**

The Army Education Center on post college schedule for the summer semester is as follows:
▪ Florida Institute of Technology, Through –July 25
▪ University of Maryland, Through Aug. 10
▪ Harford Community College, June 30 – Aug. 1
▪ Central Michigan University, July 9 – Aug. 19
For more information, contact the Army Education Center at 410-306-2042/2037.

**2ND INFANTRY DIVISION
REUNION**

The Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who served in the 2nd Infantry Division at any time. For information about the association and its 93rd annual reunion in Omaha, Ne. from Sept. 16 – 20, contact secretary-treasurer, Bob Haynes, at Zidahq@comcast.net or 224-225-1202.

**AIRBORNE HAZARDS & OPEN
BURN PIT REGISTRY**

VA encourages all Gulf War Veterans – anyone who served in the Persian Gulf area from August 1990 to present - to sign up for the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry which is established by Public Law 112-260. The registry provides an opportunity for veterans to receive information updates and to help VA improve its understanding of deployment-related health effects. During deployment, Gulf War veterans may have been exposed to smoke from burn pits, oil-well fires, and air pollution. Veterans must complete an online health questionnaire to participate in the registry. For more information, visit www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/.

INSIDE APG

APG commanders and subject matter experts will discuss topics of interest to the local community every Saturday and Wednesday at 7:50 a.m. during “Inside APG: Creating One Community Without a Gate,” a monthly radio

series on 970 WAMD. For more information about the series, to schedule or request an interview, call the Garrison Public Affairs Office at 410-278-1150. For previous interviews, follow these links:<http://youtu.be/a8vuMdxmG50>; <http://youtu.be/se7hTkwnbO8>

**CPR, AED CLASSES
SCHEDULED**

The APG Fire and Emergency Services Division of the Directorate of Emergency Services has released its schedule for CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) classes for 2014. Two classes will be held the third Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the same location.
July 16, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Aug. 20, Edgewood Conference Center
Sept. 17, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Oct. 15, Edgewood Conference Center
Nov. 19, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Dec. 17, Edgewood Conference Center
Class size is limited to 30 participants. For more information or to register, contact Mike Slayman, assistant chief of EMS, at 410-306-0566 or e-mail michael.p.slayman.civ@mail.mil.

**ARMY WELLNESS CENTER
OFFERING SERVICES AT APG
SOUTH CLINIC**

The Army Wellness Center is seeing clients at the APG South (Edgewood) Clinic, Bldg. E4110 twice a month. Clients can have metabolism and body composition assessments and other services without having to drive to APG North (Aberdeen). Service members and their Family members, retirees and Army civilians can make an appointment through the APG North AWC, or be referred by their unit or primary health care provider at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Upcoming APG South AWC dates are:
June 5, 11 and 25; July 11, 23 and 29; and Aug. 5, 14 and 27.
For more information, or to schedule an appointment call 410-306-1024.

**REPORT POWER OUTAGES TO
CORVIAS MILITARY LIVING**

During severe weather, all residential power outages should be reported to the Neighborhood Office at 410-305-1076. This will allow staff to determine if the outage is widespread or specific to the home and coordinate the responsible provider to restore power.
In the event a neighborhood office loses power, the phone system may also be affected. If the office cannot be reached, residents should call the following toll-free numbers to report outages and maintenance emergencies. Calls to the toll-free number will directly connect residents to the emergency on-call service.
APG: 1-866-958-5412
Patriot Village: 1-866-871-6257
NH Office: 410-305-1076

**SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS
BONUS**

South Dakota is paying a bonus to members of the armed forces who were legal residents of the state for no less than six months immediately preceding their period of active duty and who served on active duty during one or more of the following periods.
1. Aug. 2, 1990 to March 3, 1991 – All active service counts for payment.
2. March 4, 1991 to Dec. 31, 1992 –

Only service in a hostile area qualifying for the Southwest Asia
Service Medal counts for payment.
3. Jan. 1, 1993 to Sept. 10, 2001 – Only service in a hostile area qualifying for any United States
campaign or service medal awarded for combat operations against hostile forces counts for payment.
4. Sept. 11, 2001 to a date to be determined – All active service counts for payment.
Veterans with qualifying service before Dec 31, 1992 [Desert Storm] and after Jan 1, 1993 [Operation Iraqi Freedom] may receive two separate bonuses of up to \$500.00 each.
Applicants living outside of South Dakota may obtain an application by email at john.fette@state.sd.us. Include your branch of the military and dates of service. Those without email can send for an application and instructions from: SD Veterans Bonus, 425 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501-5070 or call 605-773-7251.
Applicants living in South Dakota may apply through the nearest county or Tribal Veterans Service Officer.

KEYSTONE CLUB

This free class for high school students meets every other Friday, 7 to 9 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) Youth Center, Bldg 2522. This unique leadership development experience provides opportunities for young people ages 14-18. Youth participate in activities, both in and out of the club, in three focus areas: academic success, career preparation and community service. With the guidance of an adult advisor, Keystone Club aims to have a positive impact on members, the club and community. Participants may bring up to two non-DoD friends. For more information, call 410-278-4995.

YOUTH CENTER OPENINGS

The Aberdeen and Edgewood programs currently have immediate openings for the 2013-2014 school year at their School Age & Youth Services facilities. Openings are available in both locations for eligible users. For more information, call 410-278-7571/7479.

**FRIDAY NIGHT OPEN
RECREATION FOR TEENS**

The APG North (Aberdeen) Youth Center, Bldg 2522, invites all high school students out to its free Friday Night Open Recreation for Teens, every Friday from 6 p.m. to midnight. Teens are invited out to meet new friends, shoot some hoops or just play some pool. Bring up to two non-DoD friends to join in the fun. For more information, call 410-278-4995.

PIANO & GUITAR LESSONS

Each class is a one-on-one, 30-minute session for seven or eight weeks, once a week. Parents choose a time between 3 and 9 p.m. when they register their children. Open to all DOD ID cardholders. To register, visit Central Registration or call 410-278-7479/7571. For information, email lauren.e.kateley.naf@mail.mil or call 410-278-4589.

**MORE
ONLINE**

More events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/calendar.

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

300 Block Traffic Pattern Change

Traffic patterns will be disrupted July through September in the 300 block starting the first week in July to conduct steam line replacement work. This work will repair steam leaks emanating from steam vaults. Temporary fencing will define the staging area for pipes and equipment. Phase 1 fencing will go up starting June 30 through Sept. 24. Phase 2 fencing will go up Sept. 25 through Oct.15. Work will begin July 7. For more information, contact the Directorate of Public Works’ Jeff Presgraves at 410-306-1848, jeffery.a.presgraves.civ@mail.mil; or Devon Rust at 410-306-1125, devon.a.rust.civ@mail.mil.

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

Boothby Hill Road Partial Closing

Through July 11, Boothby Hill Ave between Bel Air Street and Aberdeen Boulevard will be closed to all traffic for repaving. The intersections at Bel Air, Frankford, Darlington and Combat will remain open.

There will be no through traffic at Havre de Grace, Susquehanna and Raritan. Motorists are cautioned to allow additional time for their commutes and to familiarize themselves with alternate routes. Those with destinations in the 5000 block will be able to access Havre De Grace Street from the Combat Drive / Convoy Road end. Havre de Grace Street traffic will not be able to cross Boothby Hill in either direction

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

APG NEWS

This Week in APG News history

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News



50 Years Ago: July 2, 1964

Clockwise from left:
(From left) Deirdre Painter, Sheri Beck and Lynn Goldfarb combine paper and water in art class under the encouraging eye of Beatrice "Mrs. Bea" Zelkind at the APG Cooperative Nursery School.

Jack S. Schantz, a tank automotive instructor with the Ordnance Center and School, restores a fledgling robin to its nest in a 17-ton M18 tank. Tune up of the tank's motor has been suspended until the birds have flown away.

(From left) Carl DeWeese and Frank Sirangelo operate a U.S. Army Ballistic Research Laboratory "Mouse Automatic Boregauge." The device offers a cheap and simple way of measuring gun barrel erosion after projectile firings.

25 Years Ago: July 5, 1989

Clockwise from top left:
(From left) Dr. Tsung-Ming Shih of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense shows West Point cadets Ray Cho and Charles Elliott how to analyze test results on a high-performance liquid chromatograph during a research session designed to give cadets first-hand experience in a medical research laboratory.

Sandy Sinclair, Red Cross Volunteer of the Month for May, poses with her children Michael, 11, and Elizabeth, 5, before the family departs for Germany to join her husband Sgt. 1st Class Michael Dean Sinclair.

(From left) Sgt. Paul Thompson, Instructor of the Month for June, questions Pvts. Jeff Tolle and Scott Steiman about basic issue items for a 5-ton recovery vehicle. Thompson said he tries to be a positive influence on advanced individual training students.

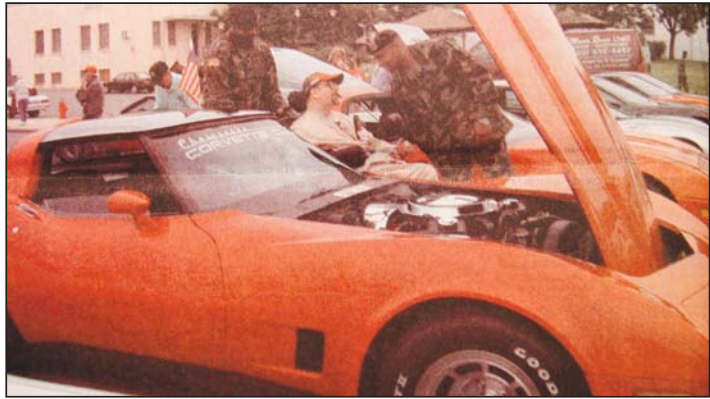


10 Years Ago: July 1, 2004

Clockwise from top left:
While serving as military escorts, Sgts. Timothy Garner and Samuel Lee of the OC&S Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course chat with a patient while checking vintage Corvettes at the Perry Point VA Medical Center in Perryville.

Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Myhre wears the new Army Combat Uniform; the recently-approved wear for Soldiers that contains 20 new improvements like shoulder pockets and no-shine desert boots.

(From right) Retired Brig. Gen. Richard Alexander, president of the Maryland National Guard Association gives a pep talk to cadets of the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy during a May 2004 visit to the organization.



Want to make a difference in how services are rendered at APG? Tell us how we are doing. Visit <http://ice.disa.mil>.

Click on "ARMY" then "Aberdeen Proving Ground."



*Spring showers
brings summer
flowers ... and
then some*

Although it seemed that the cold, wet winter of 2014 would never end, all that snow and rain produced a lush spring. Woodland hollows and low areas flooded, creating temporary pools that are seasonal habitat for frogs and salamanders; new growth of weeds and grasses provided a nutritional boost to the deer just in time for the birth of their fawns; and while we might not appreciate them, the mosquitoes, flies and other insects that appeared with warmer weather are food for birds and bats. The next time it rains, go splash a puddle as a 'Thank you' to Mother Nature!

Photo by Molly Blossie

Adams cites teamwork, partnership priorities

Continued from Page 1

ian staff.
Adams comes to APG from Fort Carson, Colorado, where he served as command sergeant major of the 64th Brigade Support Battalion. Ervin is retiring after more than 31 years of service.

Garrison Commander Col. Gregory R. McClinton presided over the ceremony, which was highlighted by the passing of the NCO Sword the symbol of NCO leadership.

Army tradition states that though the sword is no longer part of the NCO's equipment, using it in the ceremony serves to remind Soldiers that the senior NCO is responsible for order and discipline. It also reminds the NCO of his responsibility to care for the troops.

McClinton gave a special welcome to Ervin's wife and Family members and told Ervin he should be proud of everything the Garrison has accomplished during his tenure.

Much of it, he said, was due to the professionalism and excellence of the Garrison workforce as well as to Ervin's professionalism and vigilance.

He said that trust has been the bedrock of his relationship with his right arm.

"You will be missed," he said. "On behalf of the Installation Management Commander Lt. Gen. Halverson, I say thank you."

McClinton ordered Ervin to "stand down," and directed Ervin's wife Kathy to, "take charge of this Soldier."

He also welcomed Adams and wished him much success.

"I have great confidence, based on



Photo by Sean Kief

(From left) Incoming Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey O. Adams and Garrison Commander Col. Gregory R. McClinton look on as Outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. James E. Ervin shares parting thoughts with the audience during the Garrison Change of Responsibility ceremony at the post theater June 26.

your past experience," he said.

Ervin spoke at some length, thanking directorates, tenant organizations, installation officers, NCOs, civilians and his church Family for their support. Using his signature wit, he elicited waves of laughter from the audience with several humorous anecdotes.

He thanked McClinton for his mentorship, calling him "the best commander I've had."

"I deeply appreciate your faith in me," he said.

He added that he appreciated the well

wishes shown to his Family and that his only hope is that he finished strong.

"My name is Command Sgt. Maj. James E. Ervin and I am an American Soldier," he said. "God bless all of you, your families, our Soldiers and our great nation."

Adams thanked all Soldiers and program organizers and especially the Team APG workforce for helping him through the transition. He promised that he would work hard for the Garrison and for APG Soldiers.

He said that as a Garrison leader his priority is teamwork and partnership.

"One of the biggest things we have to

do as a Garrison is to continue to put the customer first," he said. "We have strong partnerships and we want to ensure that we, as professionals, are doing our best to further develop those relationships."

"APG Strong," he said.

The program included the posting and retiring of the colors by the USAPHC color guard and the singing of the national anthem by Pfc. Stacy Dobson.

Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey O. Adams

Adams is a native of Dumas, Texas. He entered the Army in 1991, completed Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina as a light wheeled vehicle mechanic.

Adam's previous assignments include Wiesbaden Air Base, Germany; Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; Korea; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Riley, Kansas; and Fort Carson, Colorado.

He is a veteran of Operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn.

Adam's military education includes the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy and the Battle Staff Noncommissioned Officer Course. He holds a bachelors degree in Science from Excelsior University.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service and Army Commendation medals; German marksmanship and Drivers/Mechanics badges; and he is a recipient of the Ordnance Order of Samuel Sharpe and the Order of Saint Barbara.

Adams is married with one son, one daughter and one grandchild.

CECOM celebrates Signal Corps past, future

Continued from Page 1

Association and the retired Lt. Gen. Alfred J. Mallette Chapter of the Signal Corps Regimental Association. More than 120 current and former members of the regiment as well as industry partners attended the event.

"Events like this are part of the proud Army tradition of fostering and preserving the esprit, tradition and cohesion of its regiments. But more importantly, events like this are a part of what makes us 'Professionals,'" said Brig. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford, CECOM and APG senior commander.

The Signal Corps traces its existence from June 21, 1860, when Congress authorized the appointment of one signal officer in the Army, and a War Department order carried the following assignment: "Signal Department-Assistant Surgeon Albert J. Myer to be Signal Officer, with the rank of Major, to fill an original vacancy."

Albert James Myer, an Army doctor, developed the idea of a separate, trained professional military signal service. He proposed that the Army use his visual communications system called "wigwag" while serving as a medical officer in Texas in 1856. When the Signal Corps was born, Myer was the first and only signal officer.

The Signal Corps Regiment wasn't actually established until June 1986

“Events like this are part of the proud Army tradition of fostering and preserving the esprit, tradition and cohesion of its regiments. But more importantly, events like this are a part of what makes us ‘Professionals.’”

Brig. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford
CECOM and APG senior commander

when it was activated into the Army's newly created Regimental System. Crawford used the regiment's motto, Pro Patria Vigilans, (Watchful for the Country) to emphasize the value of the Signal Corps' past accomplishments and the critical role it will play for the Army in the future.

"So, to truly be watchful for our country, we need to take into account the strategic challenges and opportunities that will define our future in a world that is growing more volatile, more unpredictable, and in some instances more threatening than ever," Crawford explained.

He went on to identify four key challenges the Signal Regiment must address to successfully meet the future. First, he cited strengthening the Army Profession.

"We are in a noble, selfless calling that exists on bedrock of trust. Strengthening the Army Profession is about living up to our solemn commitment to serve. Solving all other challenges is possible when we first understand our calling."

The second challenge he highlighted was that of developing and sustaining the workforce. Crawford emphasized, "This ladies and gentlemen is our collective competitive advantage. It's not a cliché to say that our most important resource is our hard working people around the world."

The third challenge facing the Signal Corps was that of evolving Signal enterprise processes. "We need to reassess our old processes and bring in new innovative enterprise solutions," Crawford said.

The fourth and final challenge Crawford addressed was that of streamlining the way the Signal community acquires new capabilities. He said much more work was needed in this area to provide more flexibility in meeting requirements.

Crawford summarized his key points by saying "So, honor our Army Profession, it is our bedrock. Develop and sustain a winning workforce. Revolutionize our processes and innovate to keep our competitive edge."

As part of the anniversary celebration, the youngest and oldest members of the Signal Corps in attendance helped cut a ceremonial cake with a saber. Participants included Crawford, Spec. Lee Gannon, from the Headquarters, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, the youngest Signal Soldier in attendance, and Col. Joe Dupont, PEO IEW&S, the oldest in attendance. Joining them was retired Lt. Col. Ed Carnes, president of the Alfred J. Mallette Signal Corps Regimental Association, and CECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis Dent.

During the event, the Signal Corps Regimental Association presented Lt. Col. Rayfus J. Gary, project manager for the Handheld, Manpack and Small Form Fit radio program, with the Bronze Order of Mercury, an honorary award from the Signal Regiment for accomplishments in his field.

Carl, how popular is the APG Facebook page?

So popular, Fort Meade comes to us for updates



like us on facebook

www.facebook.com/APGMd



Operation encourages hiring MD veterans

Continued from Page 1

Operation Hire, which began June 1 and concludes 5 p.m., Sept. 9, complements the services already in place for veterans seeking employment across the state.

All veterans who are Maryland residents are included in the campaign, including members of the National Guard and Army Reserve. The employment criteria include full- and part-time work, as well as contractual.

“Our goal is to provide solid tools as well as research-informed resources to the employer community in an effort to educate on best practices for recruiting, hiring, supporting, and retaining our veterans in the civilian work place,” said Dana Hendrickson, MDVA director of outreach and advocacy. “In addition, the agencies and businesses who participate will be recognized for their participation at the end of the 100 days. We will provide special recognition to the agency or business with the most hires (raw count) as well as for the overall percentage of hires based upon work force size.”

Hendrickson said Operation Hire strives to encourage veteran hiring beyond September. “The resources we are providing to employers on our website will remain static,” she said. “We hope that the research-informed strategies which employers have access to will be permanently incorporated into their existing HR strategic plans.”

Maureen O’Connor, director of communications and media relations for the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, described Operation



Hire as a “win-win” for veterans and communities at large.

“We have some great veterans and job openings, and it’s our duty to give back to our veterans,” she said. “It’s good for them and it’s good for business.”

Federal, state and local agencies, and private businesses, as well as non-profit organizations, are encouraged to participate in Operation Hire by initiating or expanding veteran-friendly hiring policies.

To be eligible, employers with a federal tax identification number must complete the online registration form; visit the Employer Tool Kit; register on the Maryland Workforce Exchange; contact their local One Stop Career Cen-

ter and the MDVA at mdveteransinfor@maryland.gov to announce job listings; and share hiring data via the Veteran Hiring Tracking form when contacted by the MDVA. The forms will be sent to employers on a scheduled basis.

For more information or to register as a participant in Operation Hire, businesses and agencies can visit <http://veterans.maryland.gov/operation-hire-marylands-100-day-veteran-hiring-challenge/>.

A smoother transition

Last year, the Maryland General Assembly passed the Veterans Full Employment Act of 2013, which removes barriers to employment that service members frequently face while transitioning to the civilian workforce. The act expedited the process for certain occupational and professional licensing for recently-discharged veterans and spouses when a military Family relocates to Maryland.

“Veterans bring remarkable skill sets and qualities to our civilian work environment,” read a statement released by the Assembly regarding the 100 Day Veteran Hiring Challenge. “They display fierce loyalties and commitment,

a strong work ethic, excellent problem solving capabilities, and technical training. Supporting veteran employment is not only good for our veterans and their Families, it is good for our communities and our businesses. Operation Hire will play a critical role in supporting the men and women who have given so much for our state and for our nation.”

A Chestertown, Maryland company is one of several employers that have signed up for Operation Hire. The company has 350 workers and has been a longtime hirer of veterans, according to Kelly L. Moriarty, the company’s wellness coordinator/Chestertown recruiter.

“We’re a family-oriented company, so our ways of operating really connect with veterans,” she said. “We want to help take care of the people who take care of us. We know it’s not an easy transition, so we try to help and give back in any way we can.”

A sub-campaign focusing on employing family members of Maryland veterans will be launched in August.

For a map of Operation Hire employer participants and their locations and contact information, visit <http://veterans.maryland.gov/operation-hire-marylands-100-day-veteran-hiring-challenge/>.

Army considers potential reduction impacts

Continued from Page 1

of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register by the Army, copies of the SPEA and draft FNSI will be available in some public libraries near the affected installations.

The draft FNSI incorporates the SPEA, which does not identify any sig-

nificant environmental impacts from the proposed action; with the exception of socioeconomic impacts at most installations. The draft FNSI concludes that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

Final decisions as to which installations will be selected for reductions in

Soldiers and Army civilians have not yet been made. The SPEA’s analysis of environmental and socioeconomic impacts will help force structure decision-makers as they identify specific units and organizations to be affected by reductions over the 2015-2020 timeframe.

Following the conclusion of the NEPA process, the Army will conduct community listening sessions to receive public input before making any force structure decisions. This information will assist with the military value analysis. The schedule of the community listening sessions will be announced locally, after the conclusion of the SPEA process.

Current budgetary projections require the Army to analyze the reduction of Active Component end strength to a level below that analyzed in the January 2013 Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA). The SPEA builds on the foundation of the 2013 PEA and assesses the impacts of a potential reduction of an additional 70,000 Soldiers and associated reductions in Army civilians, down to an Active Component end-strength of 420,000. These reductions are necessary to achieve the savings required by the Budget Control Act of 2011.

Nearly all Army installations will be affected in some way by additional reductions. The 2013 PEA evaluated 21 Army installations and joint bases where Army stationing changes could lead to Brigade Combat Team (BCT) restructuring, the loss of a BCT through force drawdown, or a combined loss of 1,000 or more Soldiers and Army civilian employees (Army employees) during the fiscal year 2013-2020 timeframe. With the deeper reductions now anticipated, the Army must consider additional installations that have the potential to lose 1,000 or more Army employees. The potential loss of 1,000 Army employees was determined to be the appropriate threshold for inclusion of installations at the programmatic level of analysis. Installations that could experience reductions of 1,000 or more Army employees were specifically analyzed in the SPEA.

In both the 2013 PEA and the SPEA, each document’s respective reduction alternative analyzed potential reductions at Fort Benning, Georgia; Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Fort Car-

son, Colorado; Fort Drum, New York; Fort Gordon, Georgia; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Irwin, California; Fort Knox, Kentucky; Fort Lee, Virginia; Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; Fort Polk, Louisiana; Fort Riley, Kansas; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Fort Stewart, Georgia; Fort Wainwright, Alaska; Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska; Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington; and, United States Army Garrison (USAG) Hawaii – Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The SPEA also analyzed potential reductions at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland; Fort Belvoir, Virginia; Fort Huachuca, Arizona; Fort Jackson, South Carolina; Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; Fort Meade, Maryland; Fort Rucker, Alabama; Joint Base San Antonio – Fort Sam Houston, Texas; and USAG Hawaii – Fort Shafter.

The SPEA provides an assessment of the possible direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental and socioeconomic impacts of the greatest Army employee reductions being considered at each installation. The SPEA does not identify any significant environmental impacts as a result of implementing the proposed action, with the exception of socioeconomic impacts at most installations; consequently, the preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required.

For more information, contact the U.S. Army Environmental Command Public Affairs Office at 210-466-1590, toll-free at 855-846-3940, or email: usarmy.jbsa.aec.nepa@mail.mil.

Copies of the SPEA and draft FNSI will be available at the following local libraries:

- APG
- Harford County Public Library, Aberdeen, 21 Franklin Street
- HCPS, Bel Air, 100 E. Pennsylvania Avenue
- Baltimore County Public Library, Essex, 110 Eastern Boulevard
- BCPS, Towson, 320 York Road
- Cecil County Public Library, Elkton, 301 Newark Avenue
- Fort Meade
- Medal of Honor Memorial Library, 4418 Llewellyn Avenue
- West County Area Library, Odenton, 1325 Annapolis Road

For the full list of libraries and installations, go to <http://aec.army.mil/Services/Support/NEPA/Documents.aspx>.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know the remains of a once-vibrant village lie beneath the Conowingo Dam?



The sleepy hamlet of Conowingo, Maryland population 4,253 located in western Cecil County near the Pennsylvania border, is widely known as home of the Conowingo Dam. Located on the lower Susquehanna River, the dam is one of the largest non-federal hydroelectric dams in the United States.

Many people don’t know that a small town also called Conowingo was once situated on the site of the 4,648-foot dam and was basically relocated because of the building of the hydroelectric station and reservoir.

For generations, the original town of Conowingo – which comes from the Susquehannock word for “at the rapids” -- was located on the eastern bank of the Susquehanna at its confluence with Conowingo Creek. It was also the site of the Conowingo Bridge. The hillside village included a post office, train station, church, two-room schoolhouse, general store, other businesses and a hotel. Conowingo native Ralph Reed said the town “was dear to us and we thought it was going to last forever,” according to a May/June 2010 article in *Cecil Soil Magazine*. At its height, Old Conowingo had a population of approximately 350 people, many of them tradesmen and merchants.

Old Conowingo’s demise started when the Philadelphia Electric Co. decided to utilize the area’s flowing river to power turbines. The project to build the massive dam and power house, at the 90-foot fall of the river, started in 1926. On Jan. 18, 1928, the dam’s final eight floodgates closed and the mighty Susquehanna slowly backed up into the town.

When it was over, water covered 9,000 acres of habitable land. According to *The Baltimore Sun*, such landmarks as the “historic Conowingo Pike, the old Columbia and Port Deposit Railroad, the ancient bridge, the old canal, towpaths and the toll house” were decimated in the process, with stunned townsfolk watching from a hillside. The result was a new Conowingo Bridge with a 14-mile-long lake on one side and a 100-foot waterfall on the other.

Today, one needs to employ a reservoir of imagination to envision the thriving village that once stood near a cove just north of the dam. As the *Cecil Soil Magazine* surmised, “The backwaters of the dam have erased the physical evidence and an uninterrupted tide of time has eroded away most living recollections.”

The lost village lies beneath the impounded water near an arched railroad bridge, like a regional version of Atlantis.

Alan Feiler, APG News

Submit letters to the editor to usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil

APG SNAPSHOT

A peek at the events making news in and around U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground. For complete photo coverage, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/>.



Photos by Molly Blossie

APG’S LOOKING RED, WHITE AND BLUE FOR FOURTH

(Clockwise from top) The doll is dressed! The little mystery doll that sits on a drainage pipe near the Maryland and Aberdeen Boulevard intersection is all done up in patriotic colors with a matching flag and pinwheel; APG residents are giving their yards the holiday look with red white and blue door decorations, plastic flowers, flags and banners as everyone gussies up for the Fourth of July. Celebrate safely, APG!



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